



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/524,728	07/29/2005	Michel Lefebvre	0565-1040	8346

466 7590 12/21/2009
YOUNG & THOMPSON
209 Madison Street
Suite 500
Alexandria, VA 22314

EXAMINER

DEBROW, JAMES J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2176

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-------------------	---------------

12/21/2009

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

DocketingDept@young-thompson.com

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/524,728	Applicant(s) LEFEBVRE, MICHEL	
	Examiner JAMES J. DEBROW	Art Unit 2176	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 July 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to communications: Amendment filed 20 Jul. 2009.

Claims 1-15 are pending in this case. Claims 1 and 12 are independent claims.

Applicant's Response

In Applicant's Response dated 20 Jul. 2009, Applicant amended claims 1, 2, 5, 6 and 12; added new claim 14 and 15. Applicant argued against all rejections previously set forth in the Office Action dated 18 Feb. 2009.

Claim Objections

Claim 14 is objected to because of the following informalities: Misspelled word in line 5, the claims recites "*the mans for selecting and reorganizing.....*" The examiner determined that applicant made a typographical error in spelling the word "means". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 15 is objected to because of the following informalities: Misspelled word in line 3, the claims recites "*the mans for inputting further comprises.....*" The examiner determined that applicant made a typographical error in spelling the word "means". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 8 and 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guttman et al. (Pat. No.: US 6,988,241 B1; Filed: Nov. 15, 2000) (hereinafter 'Guttman') in view of Devine et al (Patent No.: 6,385,644 B1; Filed: Sep. 24, 1998) (hereinafter 'Devine').

Regarding independent claim 1, Guttman discloses *a method for communicating structured information, between a first user and at least one second user, said method comprising* (col. 1, lines 53-67; Guttman discloses embodiments of the current invention allow people to collaborate and share spreadsheets over the web.):

defining a document standard determining a general framework of the document comprised of (col. 3, lines 36-41; col. 4, lines 45-65; col. 5, lines 30-35; col. 15, lines 4-7; Guttman discloses a spreadsheet designer designing a spreadsheet which includes a spreadsheet data file containing a data ID, which refers to a file/spreadsheet name and information for each individual cell in a spreadsheet. Guttman also discloses the cells contain labels which are strings of text that appear within a cell. They are typically used

Art Unit: 2176

to name rows or columns of numbers, and for descriptive text introducing or explaining a spreadsheet. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the Examiner concludes the dataID and the column labels are used to reflect the framework of the document in the form of document and column titles as recited in the current invention in, paragraphs 0061-0062 and 0205.):

a series of titles (col. 6, lines 22-44; col. 15, lines 4-7; Fig. 2; Guttman discloses each column of the spreadsheet contains a letter. Guttman also discloses a cell can contain labels as string of text entry such a "Sales targets". Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the Examiner concludes the letter identifying a column and the example of a string of text, e.g. "Sales targets" are considered titles. It has been established and is well known in the art that spreadsheet typically contain a series of titles.).

values authorized by fields of information, the step of defining being performed by said first user and the second user, said first user producing the information, the second user receiving at least a portion of the information (col. 3, lines 36-41; col. 4, lines 45-65; col. 5, line 55-col. 6, line 44; col. 7, lines 29-38; col. 8, line 33-col. 9, line 30; Guttman discloses a spreadsheet designer designing a spreadsheet which includes a spreadsheet data file containing a data ID, which refers to a file/spreadsheet name and information for each individual cell in a spreadsheet. The data file includes a data ID, which refers to a file/spreadsheet name and information for each individual cell in a spreadsheet. The information for each cell may include value, formula, formatting,

Art Unit: 2176

editability and borders. Guttman also discloses the client/user receiving the spreadsheet via email or from a request to the server.).

the step of defining also defining at least one selection attribute for selecting information items from said document (col. 4, lines 33-65; col. 5, line 55-col. 6, line 21; col. 7, lines 1-28; col. 24, line 26-col. 25, line 58; Guttman discloses a spreadsheet designer designing a spreadsheet which includes a spreadsheet data file containing a data ID, which refers to a file/spreadsheet name and information for each individual cell in a spreadsheet. The data file includes a data ID, which refers to a file/spreadsheet name and information for each individual cell in a spreadsheet. Guttman also discloses the designer can change/define information for any specific cell in the spreadsheet where the designer enters and edits cell values and formulas. The information in every cell may include but is not limited to value, formula, formatting, editability and borders. Thus Guttman discloses the step of defining also defining at least one selection attribute for selecting information items from said document.).

inputting, by said first user, said information, the step of inputting being comprised of inputting text and/or titles to the general framework and selecting values authorized on said fields, the input information items being associated with at least one selection attribute based on the document standard (col. 4, lines 33-65; col. 7, lines 1-28; col. 15, lines 4-7; col. 25, lines 24-28; Guttman discloses a spreadsheet designer designing a spreadsheet which includes a spreadsheet data file containing a data ID, which refers to a file/spreadsheet name and information for each individual cell in a spreadsheet. Guttman also discloses the cells contain labels which are strings of text

Art Unit: 2176

that appear within a cell. Guttman further discloses the command line is the area of the spreadsheet where a designer enters and edits cell values and formulas.).

transmitting the said information from said first user to storage for each secondary user (col. 3, lines 36-42, col. 4, lines 4-14; Guttman discloses transmitting the said information from said first user to storage for each secondary user.).

wherein each second user defines an identical document standard (col. 7, lines 48-50; col. 8, lines 33-60; Guttman discloses when the server receives a request from the client, it looks at the parameters to identify the dataID parameter, which identifies a file containing the data for the web-based spreadsheet. Guttman also discloses a client system receives the number of rows and columns to build a particular spreadsheet. Therefore each second user defines an identical document standard.).

Guttman does not expressly disclose *a series of notifications;*

selecting, by each secondary user, a sorting criterion applicable to at least one selection attribute defined by the document standard;

selecting information items of the document and re-organizing the selected information items of the document according to said sorting criterion and selection attributes associated with said information items;

supplying, to the secondary user, the selected information item of the document re-organized according to the said sorting criterion;

wherein each second user selects a separate sorting criterion corresponding to each second user independent from another second user.

Devine teaches *a series of notifications* (col. 2, lines 28-31; col. 8, lines 13-15; Devine teaches a report manager server for generation, management and receipt notification of customized reports.).

selecting, by each secondary user, a sorting criterion applicable to at least one selection attribute defined by the document standard (col. 4, lines 41-45; col. 11, lines 17-40; col. 16, lines 17-52; Devine teaches the spreadsheet presentation allows for sorting of report data by any arbitrary set of columns, wherein each column has a data type, a name, and a desired display format, etc. (attributes). Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the Examiner concludes the arbitrary set of columns to include but not limited to titles or the fields of the document set by the step of defining a document standard.).

selecting information items of the document and re-organizing the selected information items of the document according to said sorting criterion and selection attributes associated with said information items (col. 4, lines 41-45; col. 11, lines 17-40; col. 16, lines 17-52; Devine teaches the spreadsheet presentation allows for sorting of report data by any arbitrary set of columns. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the Examiner concludes the arbitrary set of columns to include but not limited to titles or the fields of the document set by the step of defining a document standard. Thus the Examiner concludes it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in

Art Unit: 2176

the art that before items can be re-organized, there must exist a mechanism for first selecting the item. Therefore Devine teaches a step for the re-organization of the document according to the selected criteria.).

supplying, to the secondary user, the selected information item of the document re-organized according to the said sorting criterion (col. 4, lines 41-45; col. 11, lines 17-40; col. 16, lines 17-52; Devine teaches a report viewer application which enables a user to analyze and display the data report. Devine teaches the spreadsheet presentation allows for sorting of report data by any arbitrary set of columns. Thus Devine teaches supplying, to the secondary user, the document re-organized according to the said sorting criterion.).

wherein each second user selects a separate sorting criterion corresponding to each second user independent from another second user (col. 4, lines 41-45; col. 11, lines 17-40; col. 16, lines 17-52; col. 17, lines 35-49; Devine teaches a report viewer application which enables a user to analyze and display the data report. Devine teaches the spreadsheet presentation allows for sorting of report data by any arbitrary set of columns. Devine also teaches a report retrieval process utilizing an inbox client GUI application which requires a customer to login. Using the broadest interpretation, the Examiner concludes that the system allows multiple users to logon to the system independent of each other. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that each independent user would be capable of selecting a separate sorting criterion corresponding to each second user independent from another second user.).

Therefore at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Devine with Guttman for the benefit of providing secure initiation, acquisition and presentation of information from any customer computer platform having a Web browser (col. 2 lines 28-44).

Regarding dependent claim 3, Guttman disclose *a method according to Claim 1, wherein the step of defining the said document standard comprises:*

modifying at least one title by said first user during the step of inputting (col. 6, lines 22-44; col. 7, lines 1-28; col. 15, lines 4-7; Guttman discloses the designer can change information for any specific cell in the spreadsheet. Guttman also discloses the cells contain labels (title) which are strings of text that appear within a cell. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation the Examiner concludes the designer (first user) is capable of modifying at least one title by said first user during the step of inputting.).

Guttman does not expressly disclose *selecting the modified title by the second user during the step for selecting said sorting criterion, for at least one title, a selection step is made if the title can be modified by the first user during the inputting step.*

Devine teaches *selecting the modified title by the second user during the step for selecting said sorting criterion, for at least one title, a selection step is made if the title can be modified by the first user during the inputting step* (col. 4, lines 41-45; col. 11, lines 17-40; col. 16, lines 17-52; Devine teaches the spreadsheet presentation allows for sorting of report data by any arbitrary set of columns. Using the broadest reasonable

Art Unit: 2176

interpretation, the Examiner concludes the arbitrary set of columns to include but not limited to the modified title.).

Therefore at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Devine with Guttman for the benefit of providing secure initiation, acquisition and presentation of information from any customer computer platform having a Web browser (col. 2 lines 28-44).

Regarding dependent claim 4, Guttman discloses *a method according to Claim 1, the step for inputting comprises:*

modifying at least one part of said document standard after the step of defining by said first user (col. 6, lines 22-44; col. 7, lines 1-28; col. 14, lines 61-67; col. 15, lines 4-7; Guttman discloses the designer can change/modify information for any specific cell in the spreadsheet. To change information of a specific cell, the designer clicks on that cell to highlight it, then type the value, text or formula for that cell into the command line field. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation the Examiner concludes the modifying of the cells can be performed during or after the step of defining by said first user.).

Regarding dependent claim 5, Guttman discloses *a method according to Claim 1, wherein the step for defining the said document standard further comprises:*

defining selection attributes by categories of information (col. 3, lines 36-41; col. 4, lines 45-65; col. 5, lines 30-35; col. 15, lines 4-7; Guttman discloses a spreadsheet

Art Unit: 2176

designer designing a spreadsheet which includes a spreadsheet data file containing a data ID, which refers to a file/spreadsheet name and information for each individual cell in a spreadsheet. Guttman also discloses the cells contain labels which are strings of text that appear within a cell, e.g. "Sales targets", thus defining categories. Labels are typically used to name rows or columns of numbers, and for descriptive text introducing or explaining a spreadsheet. Guttman further disclose when the designer/creator saves a data file, the client turns the definition of each cell into a string. The concatenated cell strings defines the entire spreadsheet. The client sends the concatenated strings to the server and writes it into the spreadsheet data file. Thus Guttman implicitly disclose defining selection attributes by categories of information.).

Guttman does not expressly disclose *said sorting criterion being based on said categories of information.*

wherein, during the step of selecting and reorganizing, information items of the document are selected and re-organized according to the categories of said information items.

Devine teaches *sorting criterion being based on said categories of information* (col. 4, lines 41-45; col. 11, lines 17-40; col. 16, lines 17-52; Devine teaches graphical user interface wherein the spreadsheet presentation allows for sorting of report data by any arbitrary set of columns. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the Examiner concludes the arbitrary set of columns to include but not limited to categories. It has been established and is well known in the art that columns within a spreadsheet

Art Unit: 2176

are typically labeled by category names. Devine also teaches a server for presenting to the customer various types of reports and messages. Devine further teaches a report viewer application, which enables a user interaction, that defines what operations may be performed on the data displayed in the spreadsheet including such dynamic operations as sorting of report data. Therefore using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the Examiner concludes the customer/user is the "second" user.).

wherein, during the step of selecting and reorganizing, information items of the document are selected and re-organized according to the categories of said information items (col. 4, lines 41-45; col. 11, lines 17-40; col. 16, lines 17-52; Devine teaches the spreadsheet presentation allows for sorting of report data by any arbitrary set of columns (categories), wherein each column has a data type, a name, and a desired display format, etc.. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the Examiner concludes the arbitrary set of columns to include but not limited to titles or the fields of the document set by the step of defining a document standard.).

Therefore at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Devine with Guttman for the benefit of providing secure initiation, acquisition and presentation of information from any customer computer platform having a Web browser (col. 2 lines 28-44).

Regarding dependent claim 7, Guttman disclose *a method according to Claim 1, wherein, the step for of transmitting comprises:*

forming the information according to an accessible page format over an information network, readable using a web navigator and printable from any office work station equipped with a web navigator and a printer (col. 21, line 58-col22, line 15;
Guttman disclose all members who have an account can log into the system by entering identifying information. The user via a browser sends a request to the server for a spreadsheet HTML page and the server returns the page to the user. Guttman also disclose printing a web-based spreadsheet.).

Regarding dependent claim 8, Guttman discloses *a method according to Claim 1, further comprising:*

consolidating documents, wherein information of the documents linked to identical titles are juxtaposed under a unique title for different documents (col. 1, lines 37-50; col. 22, lines 1-8; Guttman discloses Microsoft's Excel 2000 spreadsheet have been used to allow a user to enter data into cells of the spreadsheet and to tabulate and organize those cells. It has been established and it well known in the art that electronic spreadsheets, such as Microsoft's Excel, typically allows users the ability to consolidate documents, wherein information of the documents linked to identical titles are juxtaposed under a unique title for different documents.).

Regarding dependent claim 11, Guttman discloses *a method according to Claim 1, wherein, the document contains all titles and information input by said first user during the step of supplying (col. 7, lines 1-28; col. 15, lines 4-7;* Guttman discloses a

Art Unit: 2176

spreadsheet designer designing a spreadsheet which includes a spreadsheet data file containing a data ID, which refers to a file/spreadsheet name and information for each individual cell in a spreadsheet. Guttman also discloses the cells contain labels (titles) which are strings of text that appear within a cell. Guttman further discloses the command line is the area of the spreadsheet where a designer enters and edits cell values and formulas.).

Regarding independent claim 12, Guttman discloses *a device for communicating structured information between a first user and at least one second user, said device comprising:*

means for semantically defining a document standard being suitable for determining a general framework of the document comprised of (col. 3, lines 36-41; col. 4, lines 45-65; col. 5, lines 30-35; col. 15, lines 4-7; Guttman discloses a spreadsheet designer designing a spreadsheet which includes a spreadsheet data file containing a data ID, which refers to a file/spreadsheet name and information for each individual cell in a spreadsheet. Guttman also discloses the cells contain labels which are strings of text that appear within a cell. They are typically used to name rows or columns of numbers, and for descriptive text introducing or explaining a spreadsheet. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the Examiner concludes the dataID and the column labels are used to reflect the framework of the document in the form of document and column titles as recited in the current invention in, paragraphs 0061-0062 and 0205.):

Art Unit: 2176

a series of titles (col. 6, lines 22-44; col. 15, lines 4-7; Fig. 2; Guttman discloses each column of the spreadsheet contains a letter. Guttman also discloses a cell can contain labels as string of text entry such a "Sales targets". Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the Examiner concludes the letter identifying a column and the example of a string of text, e.g. "Sales targets" are considered titles. It has been established and is well known in the art that spreadsheet typically contain a series of titles.).

at least one selection attribute for selecting information items from said document (col. 4, lines 33-65; col. 5, line 55-col. 6, line 21; col. 7, lines 1-28; col. 24, line 26-col. 25, line 58; Guttman discloses a spreadsheet designer designing a spreadsheet which includes a spreadsheet data file containing a data ID, which refers to a file/spreadsheet name and information for each individual cell in a spreadsheet. The data file includes a data ID, which refers to a file/spreadsheet name and information for each individual cell in a spreadsheet. Guttman also discloses the designer can change/define information for any specific cell in the spreadsheet where the designer enters and edits cell values and formulas. The information in every cell may include but is not limited to value, formula, formatting, editability and borders. Thus Guttman discloses the step of defining also defining at least one selection attribute for selecting information items from said document.).

values authorized by fields of information (col. 3, lines 36-41; col. 4, lines 45-65; col. 5, line 55-col. 6, line 44; col. 7, lines 29-38; col. 8, line 33-col. 9, line 30; Guttman discloses a spreadsheet designer designing a spreadsheet which includes a

Art Unit: 2176

spreadsheet data file containing a data ID, which refers to a file/spreadsheet name and information for each individual cell in a spreadsheet. The data file includes a data ID, which refers to a file/spreadsheet name and information for each individual cell in a spreadsheet. The information for each cell may include value, formula, formatting, editability and borders. Guttman also discloses the client/user receiving the spreadsheet via email or from a request to the server.).

means for inputting, by a first terminal from said first user, information to be provided by inputting text and/or titles to the general framework and by selecting values authorized on the said fields, the input information items being associated with at least one selection attribute based on the document standard (col. 4, lines 33-65; col. 7, lines 1-28; col. 15, lines 4-7; Guttman discloses a spreadsheet designer designing a spreadsheet which includes a spreadsheet data file containing a data ID, which refers to a file/spreadsheet name and information for each individual cell in a spreadsheet. Guttman also discloses the cells contain labels which are strings of text that appear within a cell. Guttman further discloses the command line is the area of the spreadsheet where a designer enters and edits cell values and formulas.).

means for transmitting the information from said first user terminal to storage for access by each secondary terminal of each second user (col. 3, lines 36-42, col. 4, lines 4-14; Guttman discloses transmitting the said information from said first user to storage for each secondary user.).

wherein the means for defining said document standard is determined by said first user and each second user, said document standard being identical for said first

Art Unit: 2176

user and each second user (col. 1, lines 53-67; col. 7, lines 48-50; col. 8, lines 33-60; col. 3, lines 36-41; col. 4, lines 45-65; col. 5, lines 30-35; col. 15, lines 4-7; Guttman discloses embodiments of the current invention allow people to collaborate and share spreadsheets over the web. Guttman discloses a spreadsheet designer designing a spreadsheet which includes a spreadsheet data file containing a data ID, which refers to a file/spreadsheet name and information for each individual cell in a spreadsheet. Guttman also discloses the cells contain labels which are strings of text that appear within a cell. They are typically used to name rows or columns of numbers, and for descriptive text introducing or explaining a spreadsheet. Guttman further discloses when the server receives a request from the client, it looks at the parameters to identify the dataID parameter, which identifies a file containing the data for the web-based spreadsheet. Guttman also discloses a client system receives the number of rows and columns to build a particular spreadsheet. Therefore each second user defines an identical document standard.).

Guttman does not expressly disclose *a series of notifications;*

means for selecting, by each secondary user terminal of the second user, a sorting criterion applicable to the selection attribute defined by the document standard;

means for selecting information items of the document and re-organization of the selected information items of the document according to said sorting criterion set by the means for selecting a sorting criterion and according to the selection attributes associated with said information item; and

means for supplying, to each second terminal, the selected information items of the document re-organized according to each sorting criterion.

each second user having a separate sorting criterion corresponding to each second user independent from another second user.

Devine teaches a series of notifications (col. 2, lines 28-31; col. 8, lines 13-15; Devine teaches a report manager server for generation, management and receipt notification of customized reports.).

means for selecting, by each secondary user terminal of the second user, a sorting criterion applicable to the selection attribute defined by the document standard (col. 4, lines 41-45; col. 11, lines 17-40; col. 16, lines 17-52; Devine teaches the spreadsheet presentation allows for sorting of report data by any arbitrary set of columns. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the Examiner concludes the arbitrary set of columns to include but not limited to titles or the fields of the document set by the step of defining a document standard.).

means for selecting information items of the document and re-organization of the selected information items of the document according to said sorting criterion set by the means for selecting a sorting criterion and according to the selection attributes associated with said information item (col. 4, lines 41-45; col. 11, lines 17-40; col. 16, lines 17-52; Devine teaches the spreadsheet presentation allows for sorting of report data by any arbitrary set of columns. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the Examiner concludes the arbitrary set of columns to include but not limited to titles or the

Art Unit: 2176

fields of the document set by the step of defining a document standard. Thus the Examiner concludes it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that before items can be re-organized, there must exist a mechanism for first selecting the item. Therefore Devine teaches a step for the re-organization of the document according to the selected criteria.).

means for supplying, to each second terminal, the selected information items of the document re- organized according to each sorting criterion (col. 4, lines 41-45; col. 11, lines 17-40; col. 16, lines 17-52; Devine teaches a report viewer application which enables a user to analyze and display the data report. Devine teaches the spreadsheet presentation allows for sorting of report data by any arbitrary set of columns. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the Examiner concludes any arbitrary set of columns to include but not be limited to the titles of the columns of the document/spreadsheet. Thus Devine teaches supplying, to the secondary user, the document re-organized according to the said sorting criterion.).

each second user having a separate sorting criterion corresponding to each second user independent from another second user (col. 4, lines 41-45; col. 11, lines 17-40; col. 16, lines 17-52; col. 17, lines 35-49; Devine teaches a report viewer application which enables a user to analyze and display the data report. Devine teaches the spreadsheet presentation allows for sorting of report data by any arbitrary set of columns. Devine also teaches a report retrieval process utilizing an inbox client GUI application which requires a customer to login. Using the broadest interpretation, the Examiner concludes that the system allows multiple users to logon to the system

Art Unit: 2176

independent of each other. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that each independent user would be capable of selecting a separate sorting criterion corresponding to each second user independent from another second user.).

Therefore at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Devine with Guttman for the benefit of providing secure initiation, acquisition and presentation of information from any customer computer platform having a Web browser (col. 2 lines 28-44).

Regarding dependent claim 13, Guttman discloses *the method according to Claim 1, wherein the second user modifies the content of the document to give it added value* (col. 8, line 33-col. 9, line 30; Guttman discloses editable and non-editable cells of a spreadsheet. If a cell is editable that cell is unlocked, the user can type in (or modify) the value of that cell.).

Regarding dependent claim 14, Guttman discloses *the device according to claim 12, wherein the means for defining said document standard are adapted to define selection attribute by categories of information* (col. 3, lines 36-41; col. 4, lines 45-65; col. 5, lines 30-35; col. 15, lines 4-7; Guttman discloses a spreadsheet designer designing a spreadsheet which includes a spreadsheet data file containing a data ID, which refers to a file/spreadsheet name and information for each individual cell in a spreadsheet. Guttman also discloses the cells contain labels which are strings of text that appear within a cell, e.g. "Sales targets", thus defining categories. Labels are

Art Unit: 2176

typically used to name rows or columns of numbers, and for descriptive text introducing or explaining a spreadsheet. Guttman further disclose when the designer/creator saves a data file, the client turns the definition of each cell into a string. The concatenated cell strings defines the entire spreadsheet. The client sends the concatenated strings to the server and writes it into the spreadsheet data file. Thus Guttman implicitly disclose defining selection attributes by categories of information.).

Guttman does not expressly disclose, *said sorting criterion being based on said categories of information wherein the mans for selecting and reorganizing selects and reorganizes information items of the document according to the categories of said information items.*

Devine teaches *sorting criterion being based on said categories of information wherein the mans for selecting and reorganizing selects and reorganizes information items of the document according to the categories of said information items* (col. 4, lines 41-45; col. 11, lines 17-40; col. 16, lines 17-52; Devine teaches the spreadsheet presentation allows for sorting of report data by any arbitrary set of columns (categories), wherein each column has a data type, a name, and a desired display format, etc.. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the Examiner concludes the arbitrary set of columns to include but not limited to titles or the fields of the document set by the step of defining a document standard.).

Therefore at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Devine with Guttman for the benefit of providing secure initiation, acquisition and presentation of information from any customer computer platform having a Web browser (col. 2 lines 28-44).

NOTE

It is noted that any citations to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the reference should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art. See MPEP 2123.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guttman in view of Devine further in view of McCaskey et al. (Pub. No.: US 2002/0152245 A1; Filed Apr. 5, 2001) (hereinafter 'McCaskey').

Regarding dependent claim 2, Guttman in view of Devine does not expressly disclose *a method according to claim 1, wherein said titles and the inputted text and titles appear as single linear text in at least one text zone, during the step for of inputting and the step for of supplying, in at least one text zone, the titles defined*

McCaskey teaches *wherein said titles and the inputted text and titles appear as single linear text in at least one text zone, during the step for of inputting and the step*

Art Unit: 2176

for of supplying, in at least one text zone, the titles defined (0078; 0081; 0091; Fig. 4; McCaskey discloses the web page template which contain text zone which holds text which is traditional ergonomically displayed as a single line of text, ie captions, titles, headlines, archives, classifies, etc. McCaskey also discloses an electronic mail notification database.).

Therefore at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine McCaskey with Guttman in view of Devine for the benefit of providing an editorial maintenance program to facilitate skilled modification and enhancement of the content and appearance of Web-readable publication (0021).

NOTE

It is noted that any citations to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the reference should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art. See MPEP 2123.

Claims 6, 10 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guttman in view of Devine further in view of Brittan et al. (Pat. No.: US 6,199,078 B1; Filed: Sep. 15, 1998 (hereinafter “Brittan”).

Regarding dependent claim 6, Guttman in view of Devine does not expressly disclose *the method according to Claim 1, wherein the step of defining said document*

Art Unit: 2176

standard comprises defining selection attributes by priority levels and the step of inputting is further comprised of:

associating a priority level with the information items,

wherein the step of selecting is comprised of selecting a hierarchy of information based on said priority level of the information.

during the step of selecting and reorganizing, information items of the document are selected and re-organized according to the priority levels of said information items.

Brittan teaches *associating a priority level with the information items* (col. 3, lines 25-28; col. 6, lines 35-42; col. 7, lines 30-58; col. 5, lines 58-67; col. 16, lines 26-29;

Brittan teaches associating a priority level with the information.), and

wherein the step of selecting is comprised of selecting a hierarchy of information based on said priority level of the information (col. 6, lines 35-42; col. 7, lines 30-58; col. 12, lines 5-25; Brittan teaches associating a priority level with the information.)

during the step of selecting and reorganizing, information items of the document are selected and re-organized according to the priority levels of said information items

Therefore at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Brittan with Guttman in view of Devine for the benefit of providing a priority level for settlers, which is used to order the settlers. The settlers represent seed values for the analytic network (col. 16, lines 28-29).

Regarding dependent claim 10, Guttman in view of Devine does not expressly disclose *a method according to Claim 1, wherein, the step of inputting comprises:*

allocating an identification of an author of the information, and

wherein the step of selecting comprises:

selecting a hierarchy of information values based on identifications of said author.

Brittan teaches *allocating an identification of an author of the information* (col. 9, lines 53-65; Brittan teaches the author of a spreadsheet must supply a password when that spreadsheet is locked. Thus Brittan teaches allocating an identification of an author of the information.).

wherein the step of selecting comprises:

selecting a hierarchy of information values based on identifications of said author (col. 9, lines 53-65; col. 12, lines 4-25; Brittan teaches the author of a spreadsheet must supply a password when that spreadsheet is locked.

Unlocking the spreadsheet gives the user access to all spreadsheet values, calculators, defaults and impliers. Thus the author of the spreadsheet has access to a hierarchy of information values based on identifications of said author.).

Therefore at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Brittan with Guttman in view of Devine for the benefit of providing a priority level for settlers, which is used to order the settlers. The settlers represent seed values for the analytic network (col. 16, lines 28-29).

Regarding dependent claim 13, Guttman in view of Devine does not expressly disclose *the method according to Claim 1, wherein the second user modifies the content of the document to give it added value.*

Brittan teaches *wherein the second user modifies the content of the document to give it added value* (col. 4, lines 7-24; Brittan teaches a first user is allowed to input formulas in fields of a spreadsheet, and a second user is allowed to input values in the fields.).

Therefore at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Brittan with Guttman in view of Devine for the benefit of providing a priority level for settlers, which is used to order the settlers. The settlers represent seed values for the analytic network (col. 16, lines 28-29).

NOTE

It is noted that any citations to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the reference should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art. See MPEP 2123.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guttman in view of Devine further in view of Kennedy (Pub. No.: US 2003/0187932 A1; Filed: Mar. 28, 2002.

Regarding dependent claim 9, Guttman in view of Devine does not expressly disclose *a method according to Claim 1, said method further comprising:*

determining a summary of the document, the information is being selected as a function of a hierarchy of information values.

Kennedy teaches *determining a summary of the document, the information is being selected as a function of a hierarchy of information values* (0032; 0033; 0047; 0057; 0093; Fig. 9; Kennedy teaches developing summaries for each sub-category. Kennedy also teaches each sub-category contains subdivisions typically called summaries. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the Examiner concludes the structure of categories, sub-categories and subdivisions is analogous with a hierarchy as they both are constructed of different levels each derived from the previous level.).

Therefore at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Kennedy with Guttman in view of Devine for the benefit of providing a platform independent for user and can be configured to provide many levels of security (0029).

NOTE

It is noted that any citations to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the reference should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon

Art Unit: 2176

for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art.

See MPEP 2123.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guttman in view of Devine further in view of Abelow (Patent No.: 5,251,294; Patent Date: Oct. 5, 1993) (hereinafter 'Abelow').

Regarding dependent claim 15, Guttman in view of Devine does not expressly disclose the *device according to claim 12, wherein the means for defining said document standard are adapted to define selection attribute by priority levels, the mans for inputting further comprises means for associating a priority level with the information items, wherein the means for selecting are adapted to select a hierarchy of information based on said priority level of the information and wherein the means for selecting and reorganizing selects and reorganizes information items of the document according to the priority level of said information items.*

Abelow teaches *wherein the means for defining said document standard are adapted to define selection attribute by priority levels, the mans for inputting further comprises means for associating a priority level with the information items, wherein the means for selecting are adapted to select a hierarchy of information based on said priority level of the information and wherein the means for selecting and reorganizing selects and reorganizes information items of the document according to the priority level*

Art Unit: 2176

of said information items (col. 43, line 35 – col. 44, line 20; col. 58, lines 3-10; Fig. 72; Abelow teaches creating/organizing/sorting columns in reports based on priority. For example, Abelow teaches sorting the information listed in the report by numbering up to four items in a column with the most important item numbered “1”).

Therefore at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Abelow with Guttman in view of Devine for the benefit of a reporting system which allows each user to create as many custom reports as needed (col. 44, lines 7-10).

NOTE

It is noted that any citations to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the reference should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art.

See MPEP 2123.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 20 Jul. 2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues “Guttman does not describe, teach or suggest defining selection attributes for selecting information from a document ... associating the input information with selection attributes based on the document standard ... applying a sorting criterion to the selection attributes defined by the document standard and/or ...

Art Unit: 2176

selecting and reorganizing information items of the document according to the sorting criterion and the selection attributes associated with said information items ... so each second user is supplied with selected information items that are organized according to his/her own sorting criterion.”

Based on Applicant’s description within the specification (0080, 0112, 0137, 0153) the Examiner concludes that the term “attributes” and “categories” are analogous to the term “labels” as discloses within the Guttman reference (Col. 15, lines 4-7) as the terms are typically used to name rows or columns for descriptive text introducing or explaining a spreadsheet.

Further the Examiner further concludes Applicant’s specification (0118-0119) discloses “attributes” to be merely input fields or elements of a spreadsheet report, which are terms of art and interchangeable in most cases.

Therefore the Examiner concludes that Applicant’s amendment does not serve to facilitate compact prosecution by overcoming the art of record.

Applicant argues *“McKaskey adds nothing to the combination of Guttman and Devine as applied against the independent claims. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above, Guttman, Devine and McKaskey, taken separately or in combination, fail to render obvious claim 2.*

Brittan adds nothing to the combination of Guttman and Devine as applied against the independent claims. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above,

Art Unit: 2176

Guttman, Devine and Brittan, taken separately or in combination, fail to render obvious claims 6, 10 and 13. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested."

The Examiner disagrees for the at least reasons as given above.

Further, Applicant's argument with respect to new claim 15 has been considered but is moot in view of a new ground(s) of rejection. A new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Guttman, Devine and Abelow.

Previous Specification objection is withdrawn.

Previous 35 USC § 112 Rejection regarding claim 2 is withdrawn.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2176

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James J. Debrow whose telephone number is 571-272-5768. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached on 571-272-4137. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JAMES DEBROW
EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2176

/Laurie Ries/
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 2100
15 December 2009